## James T Watterson

March 15, 2005

Terry Gnehm Lower Bear River Commissioner 195 West 1800 North Logan, UT 84321

## Gentlemen:

This letter is regarding the **Deputy Water Commissioner for the Lower Bear River Distribution System** position that was posted in the Herald Journal on March 12, 2005. Please consider me a candidate for this position.

As a lifetime farmer and active member of many Bear River water use committees, I have the experience and dedication to excel in this position. Through countless volunteer hours helping to forge agreements which govern the Bear River, I have gained a knowledge of the operation, distribution and organization which control the river. I know the irrigators, their operations and concerns.

I understand the contracts with PacifiCorp and the need for correct water measurements to ensure proper and fair allocation of water to irrigators. I believe I have the skills necessary to ensure the effective management of the Lower Bear River Distribution System.

I would be pleased to have the opportunity to interview with you regarding this position. With a few hours notice, I can be available for an interview. Thank you for considering me as a candidate for this position.

Sincerely,

James T. Watterson

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Enclosure: resume

# **James T. Watterson**

## **Objective**

To obtain a position in water distribution management that will allow me to use my years of experience to better manage water resources and benefit the system and all water users.

### **Experience**

1999-Present

**Cache County** 

Cache County, UT

## **Cache County Water Policy Advisory Board Member**

 Appointed representative serving on committee to guide the direction of water policy in Cache County with the goal of protecting water resources of Cache County for the future.

2004-Present

**Cache County** 

Cache County, UT

## **Bear River/Cutler Reservoir Advisory Committee Member**

 Represents recreational and agricultural interests on committee which develops TMDLs for the Bear River and Cutler Reservoir.

1989–February, 2005 Lower Bear River Distribution System Cache County, UT Lower Bear River Distribution System Committee Member

- Organizing member of committee since inception.
- Committee set budget for and oversaw performance of River Commissioner.

1994-2003

Bear River Water Users Association

Cache County, UT

## **Bear River Water Users Association Committee Member**

- Founding member of the Association which has the goal to protect the water rights of its members.
- Represented Utah Small Irrigators since 2003.
- Signed Bear Lake Settlement Agreement which ended lawsuits and protected the ability to access water from Bear Lake.
- Worked closely with stakeholder groups to build better understanding of irrigators' point of view and avoid conflicts.
- Negotiated many agreements with Pacificorp to help secure a supply of water for the irrigators.

1995-Present

Bear River Small Irrigators, Inc.

Cache County, UT

### **President/Committee Member**

- Organizing member of company that represents the interests of small irrigators who pump or divert water from the Bear River.
- Worked with Pacificorp to secure a contract for storage water to supplement the natural flow rights of members.

1995-Present Bear Lake Preservation Committee

Cache/Rich Counties, UT

## **Bear Lake Preservation Committee Member**

- Meets with interested groups of Bear Lake area home owners and recreationalists to promote understanding of all stakeholders viewpoints and avert conflicts over the use of Bear Lake.
- Works to help preserve and restore Bear Lake.

1962-Present

Muddy Road Ranch

Benson, UT

#### Farmer/Rancher

- Owner/operator of feed crop and beef cattle ranch.
- Maintains equipment electrical, hydraulic and mechanical systems.

1999-Present

**Muddy Road Outfitters** 

Benson, UT

#### **Owner/Operator**

- Owner/operator of river outfitting company that specializes in introducing people to the Bear River and Cutler Reservoir.
- Owner/operator of game preserve offering upland game hunting opportunities.

**Education** 

1958-1961

North Cache High School

Richmond, UT

Interests

Hunting, fishing, helping others enjoy the outdoors.